

EXHIBIT 9
DATE 1-18-07
HB 2

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Stephen LaRococue and I live in Great Falls. I have received services from North Central Independent Living Services for two years. I ask you to Support Governor Schweitzer's Disability Services Division budget. My Independent Living specialist Kris Kleinschmidt has supported me in my efforts to get involved with other agencies such as Eagle Mount. She has helped me advocate for myself with agencies such as Vocational Rehabilitation. Kris Kleinschmidt informed me about advocacy meetings such the Independent Living Symposium in Missoula. Before I became involved with North Central Independent Living Services, I was isolated@ home. I am now more independent with my disabilities. I am becoming a peer advocate.